

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10
NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 OMB-01
TRSE-00 DOE-15 SOE-02 OES-07 CEQ-01 /157 W
-----096641 282019Z /53

P 281914Z APR 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9025
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
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E.O. 11652: DECONTROL DECEMBER 31, 1978
TAGS: PARM, CCD
SUBJECT: CCD: INFORMAL MEETING OF THE CCD WITH PARTICI-
PATION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS EXPERTS

1. SUMMARY: CCD INFORMAL MEETINGS WITH CHEMICAL WEAPONS
EXPERTS WERE LIMITED TO A SINGLE LACKLUSTER SESSION ON
THURSDAY MORNING, APRIL 27, 1978. OF THE FOUR TECHNICAL
STATEMENTS PRESENTED (BY CZECH, EGYPTIAN, SWEDISH AND
HUNGARIAN EXPERTS), THE ONLY NOTABLE ONE WAS BY EGYPTIAN
EXPERT. IN PARTICULAR, EGYPTIANS SUPPORTED INTERNATIONAL
ON-SITE VERIFICATION, INCLUDING MANDATORY ON-SITE
INSPECTION OF DESTRUCTION OF WEAPONS STOCKS. EXCEPT FOR
BRIEF COMMENTS BY NETHERLANDS ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE,
THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION. END SUMMARY.

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2. CCD HELD AN INFORMAL MEETING WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF
CHEMICAL WEAPONS EXPERTS THURSDAY MORNING, APRIL 27, 1978.
THE FOLLOWING DELEGATIONS HAD EXPERTS PRESENT: CZECHO-
SLOVAKIA (2), EGYPT (2), FRG (2), HUNGARY, JAPAN, POLAND,
SWEDEN (2), USSR (3), USA. TECHNICAL STATEMENTS WERE MADE
BY EXPERTS FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA, EGYPT, SWEDEN AND HUNGARY,

AS SUMMARIZED BELOW, PARAS 3 THRU 6. EXCEPT FOR BRIEF REMARKS BY NETHERLANDS ALT/REP (SUMMARIZED BELOW, PARA 7), THERE WERE NO COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS.

3. CZECH EXPERT (DR. JAN MORAVEC, CZECHOSLOVAK ACADEMY OF SCIENCES) CONTENDED THAT MANDATORY INTERNATIONAL ON-SITE INSPECTION WOULD NOT BE EFFECTIVE OR ACCEPTABLE VERIFICATION METHOD. INSTEAD HE ADVOCATED RELIANCE ON NATIONAL METHODS OF VERIFICATION, PARTICULARLY USE OF NATIONAL COMMITTEES OF CONTROL BY EACH COUNTRY TO ENSURE DOMESTIC COMPLIANCE.

4. EGYPTIAN EXPERT (MAJOR-GENERAL A. L. EL-RAFEI) MADE THOUGHTFUL AND REASONABLE GENERAL STATEMENT COVERING EGYPTIAN VIEWS ON KEY ISSUES:

-- DEFINITION OF THE SCOPE OF THE CHEMICALS COVERED IS A VERY IMPORTANT POINT. A LIST OF CHEMICALS WILL NOT SUFFICE BECAUSE OTHER CHEMICALS MAY BE DEVELOPED. EL-RAFEI SUPPORTED THE USE OF THE GENERAL PURPOSE CRITERION AS DEVELOPED IN CCD WORKING PAPERS CCD/361, CCD/420 AND CCD/499. THE MOST IMPORTANT CRITERION, HOWEVER, IS TOXICITY. IN THIS CONNECTION, EL-RAFEI ADVISED ADOPTION OF STANDARD EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURES FOR TOXICITY MEASUREMENTS. HE CONCLUDED THAT USE OF CHEMICAL STRUCTURE AS A CRITERION IS OF LITTLE VALUE BECAUSE OF THE WIDE VARIANCE OF CHEMICAL PROPERTIES WITHIN FAMILIES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF COMPOUNDS.

-- EL-RAFEI STRESSED THE NEED FOR ADEQUATE VERIFICATION THAT TREATY PROHIBITIONS ARE BEING HONORED SINCE THEY WOULD REQUIRE A COUNTRY TO GIVE UP A SIGNIFICANT MILITARY OPTION AND A RETALIATORY OPTION. EL-RAFEI SAID THAT EXTRA-TERRITORIAL MONITORING THROUGH USE OF SATELLITES AND ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING WOULD BE USEFUL, BUT NOT ADEQUATE IN ITSELF. HE EMPHASIZED THE NEED FOR PROVISIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL ON-SITE CHALLENGE AND FOR MANDATORY INTERNATIONAL ON-SITE OBSERVATION OF DESTRUCTION OF DECLARED CHEMICAL WEAPONS STOCKPILES.

-- EL-RAFEI PROPOSED THAT A FUTURE CW CONVENTION CONTAIN A PROVISION THAT PARTIES RENDER ASSISTANCE TO ANY COUNTRY SUBJECTED TO A CW ATTACK.

-- IN CONCLUSION, EL-RAFEI SAID THAT A CW CONVENTION MUST BAN THE DEVELOPMENT AND PRODUCTION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS COINCIDENT WITH ENTRY INTO FORCE. HOWEVER, THE CONVENTION MUST ALLOW CONTINUED CHEMICAL RESEARCH FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES.

5. SWEDISH EXPERT (DR. JOHAN LUNDIN, NATIONAL DEFENCE RESEARCH INSTITUTE) REVIEWED SWEDISH WORK ON USING COMPUTER SEARCHES OF THE CHEMICAL RESEARCH LITERATURE TO FIND EVIDENCE OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS-RELATED RESEARCH. HIS GENERAL CONCLUSION WAS THAT IT IS POSSIBLE TO FORMULATE EFFECTIVE SEARCH STRATEGIES WHICH MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO DIMINISH SUBSTANTIALLY THE AMOUNT OF MANUAL SEARCHING NECESSARY. (THIS RESEARCH IS DESCRIBED IN SWEDISH WORKING PAPER CCD/569, DATED APRIL 24, 1978).

6. HUNGARIAN EXPERT (LIEUTENANT COLONEL ELEK SEBOK, INSTITUTE FOR MILITARY TECHNOLOGY) ADVOCATED COVERAGE OF ALL INCAPACITANTS, INCLUDING SUCH SENSORY IRRITANTS AS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AGENTS CS AND CN, UNDER THE CONVENTION. SEBOK POINTED OUT

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THE DIFFICULTIES OF PROTECTING CIVILIAN POPULATIONS AGAINST
CHEMICAL ATTACK DESPITE ADEQUATE PROTECTION ON THE PART OF
THE MILITARY IN REDUCING HIGH CASUALTY RATES.

7. IN BRIEF REMARKS AFTER THE STATEMENTS BY THE EXPERTS
THE NETHERLANDS ALT/REP DISAGREED WITH THE CZECH EXPERT'S
REJECTION OF INTERNATIONAL ON-SITE INSPECTION OF STOCKPILE
DESTRUCTION. HE ALSO REITERATED THE DUTCH POSITION THAT
A GROUP OF CCD EXPERTS COULD LOOK INTO A NUMBER OF QUES-
TIONS RELATED TO CW CONVENTION EVEN WHILE THE US/USSR
BILATERAL TALKS CONTINUE.

8. NO FURTHER INFORMAL MEETINGS WITH CW EXPERTS WILL BE
HELD DURING THE SPRING SESSION.
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9. COMMENT: FEWER COUNTRIES SENT EXPERTS TO THIS
EXPERTS' MEETING THAN TO PREVIOUS SESSIONS. COUNTRIES
WHICH DID NOT SEND EXPERTS THIS TIME WERE THE NETHERLANDS,
THE UK, ITALY, CANADA, AND YUGOSLAVIA. OVERALL, THE
SESSION WAS A LACKLUSTER ONE. WE QUESTION THE TACTICAL
OR TECHNICAL VALUE OF HOLDING CW EXPERTS' MEETINGS OF THIS
TYPE AT FUTURE SESSIONS. END COMMENT. VANDEN HEUVEL

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Message Attributes

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